U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/981,785 Amendment dated March 9, 2004 Reply to OA of December 11, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended in order to more particularly point out, and distinctly claim the subject matter to which the applicants regard as their invention. The applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added. It is believed that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Office Action dated **December 11, 2003**.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Oikawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,504,622) in view of Baker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,186,648).

The present invention is a head up display having a display unit (5) and a correction member (6) which is a cylindrical or spherical lens having a curved surface with a single radius of curvature. (See page 7, lines 16-21 of the specification) Light passing through the correction member (6) is adjusted so that distortion of the image seen at eye point arising from non-plane projection area of the windshield (3) is corrected.

Oikawa et al. describes a head up display having a parabolic mirror (15) in which a portion (18) of the parabolic reflective face has a different curvature to correct for distortion of the windshield.

Baker et al. describes a concave toroidal reflecting surface for concentrating and collecting light. The spherical reflecting surface has a single radius of curvature.

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Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to clearly indicate that the correction member (6) is a cylindrical or spherical lens which light passes through with a single radius of curvature rather than a reflecting surface as described by Baker et al.

Specifically, claims 1 and 2 patentably distinguish over the prior art relied upon by reciting, as exemplified by claim 1,

"A display device for use in a vehicle, by which an image displayed on a display source is projected on a projection area of a windshield of the vehicle so that the foreground of the vehicle visible from an eye point of the vehicle through the windshield and a virtual image of the image projected on the windshield, which is superposed upon the foreground, are seen together, comprising a correction member, disposed between the windshield and the display source, for transmitting a light of the image therethrough so as to correct the image to be projected on the windshield so that distortion of the image, which is seen from the eye point, arising from non-plane of the projection area of the windshield is canceled out, wherein the correction member is formed by extracting a specific portion, which can cancel out the distortion of the image, from a lens having a curved surface having a single radius of curvature, wherein the correction member is a cylindrical or spherical lens having a curved surface with a single radius of curvature so that when light passes through the correction member the distortion seen on a windshield is eliminated." (Emphasis Added)

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamamura (U.S. Patent No. 5,013,135) in view of Baker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,186,648).

Yamamura describes a head up display using a Fresnel lens (3) in which a part of the Fresnel lens (3) is curved to correct for curvature of the front glass (19).

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Again, Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to clearly indicate that the correction member (6) is a cylindrical or spherical lens which light passes through with a single radius of curvature rather than a reflecting surface as described by Baker et al.

Conlcusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1 and 2, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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